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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

SUBJECT

Thailand

DATE DISTR. 31 MAR 50

Tin Dredging Companies in Thailand

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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The Bangrin Tin Wredging Co. Ltd. has over 900 acres of alluvial tin deposits at Bangrin, Province of Ranong, Mestern Thailand. The company has taken over 1,000 acres of adjoining land of which two-thirds has been bored and estimated to contain 50 million cubic yards averaging 0.75 pounds per

cubic yard. The company owns three dredges, all of which were working as

The 1949 production was as follows:

First quarter

of 1 January 1950.

2,141 piculs (1 picul equals 133.3 lbs.)

Second quarter

2,760

Third quarter

2,461

Fourth quarter

2,680

The 1949 total, 10,042 piculs is still much less than that of 1941 when about 17,000 piculs were mined.

Bangrin's output in 1950 is expected to increase substantially over 1949 since all dredges are now working and two will soon be in better ground. The company has had a few minor labor difficulties which they believe have been corrected.

The Katu Tin Dredging Co. Ltd. is believed to have some of the best land on the island of Phuket. The company holds leases covering most of the Katu valley in the conter of Phuket island, running north and south. Although much of their land is on hillsides and cannot be worked by a dredge, the company has only one dredge and no gravel pumps. However, Katu plans to use gravel pumps as well in the future. Most of the Chinese gravel pump operators on Phuket have their eyes on Katu's land, which they want to work on a tribute basis, but Katu will not agree to this. The company is now reworking old ground in order to get through to virgin land. At the same time, the Phuket Tin Company's dredge, the largest in Thailand, is now passing through Katu Tin's ground to get to the Phuket Company's other lease. This ground has been worked twice by Katu, but Phuket Tin's dredge is producing 20 to 35 piculs a day, all of which must be given to Katu, since Katu is allowing them to pass through its ground.

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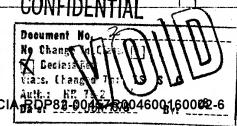
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



- 2 -

The 1949 production was as follows:

January	257	July	550
February	254	August	609
March	260	September	479
April	323.	October	730
May	317	November	660
June	330	December 4	421
First half	1,739	Second half	3,449

The total output for 1949 was 5,188 piculs compared with 570 piculs for January 1950.

3. The Pungah Tin Dredging Co. Ltd. has 982 acres at Pungah, west Coast Thailand. There are two dredges on the property, one of which was rehabilitated and started work in April 1949. The company has not yet decided whether to repair the other dredge, which was very badly damaged during the war. The company is managed by Austral Malay Tin Ltd.

The 1949 production was as follows:

oduction August	803
oduction September	r 710
October	288
November	328
December	590
	October November

First half 2,362

Second half 3,680

Production for the year 1949 was 6,042 piculs compared to 1941 when 21,752 piculs were mined. Production for January 1950 was 504 piculs.

The company has been having labor troubles. There is bad feeling between the laborers and the staff which came out into the open in February 1950 when a new European staff member was struck on the head from behind with a club. None of the workers would say who was responsible.

The Pattani Tin Co. Ltd. has mining leases at Lempaya which is just north of Yala in south Thailand. Pattani owns one dredge with a capacity of 220,000 cubic yards a month and a hydraulicking plant on the property. The ground remaining to be dredged is very poor and the company is trying to decide whether to dismantle the dredge and ship it to the West Coast of Thailand. The company has dredging rights in the sen on the East Coast of Phuket. This concession is more than two miles from shore and would be exposed to the southeast monsoon, but the Thai Minerals and Rubber Co. worked this area successfully during the Japanese occupation with the Tengah Harbor dredge.

The production for 1949 was as follows:

January	No production	July	283
February	2,234	August	523
March	893	September	408
April	434	October	259
May	150	November	371
June	402	December	338
First half	4.113	Second half	2.182

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The total output for 1949 was 6,295 piculs compared to 14,480 piculs during 1941.

5. The Kamunting Tin Predging Co. Ltd. has two dredges at Changwat Phangna, West Coast of Tha land, and four at Kamunting, Larut District, Perak, Malaya. The Chargwat lease covers 1,497 acres while that at Kamunting in Malaya covers 4,570 acres. In Malaya at Kamunting the company has four dredges all of hich are operating; in Thailand, the company has two dredges, one of which his been repaired and is working, while the other was damaged beyond repair. The company in Thailand is often referred to as the Phangnaga River Tir Concessions. The one dredge operating on the property in Thailand wer recovering more than 1,000 piculs of concentrates a month in late 1949. The following is the 1949 record of production of the company, Malaya and Thailand dredges combined.

1949 production in piculs of tin concentrates 74 percent tin.

Jenuary	3,668	July	2,492
Fabruary	3.475	August	2,929
March	4,645	September	3,142
Ardl	4,234	October	3,788
y	3,171	Movember	3,566
ane	2,925	December	3,873
First half	22.108	Second half	19,790

The total production for 1949 was 41,898 piculs. Before the war in 1941 the company produced 30,889 piculs in Malaya and 28,729 in Thailand.

In January 1950 Kamurding Tin produced 4,609 piculs of tin. The increase over December was due to the Theiland dredge producing 1,500 piculs.

The Kamra Tin Dredging (Io. Ltd. has 244 acres on the Vest Coast of the island of Phuket (Puket, 'huket) and 600 acres at Koh Ko Kow, which is 85 miles north near the coast. The company has only one dredge and it is operating on the Phuket property. After the war, the company had a contractor bore the remaining acreage on the Phuket property. The contractor's results showed that the remaining acreage to be dredged would give a good return for five years, so the company rehabilitated the dredge. However, when the dredge started operating, the company found that the contractor's boring was far from accurate and the company is barely making expenses. The company's London office is considering moving the dredge to Koh Ko Kow but as of 15 February 1950 no decidion had been reached. The dredge has a capacity of 185,000 cubic yards a month and is in very good condition.

The 1949 production was as follows

January	175	ΰuly	409
rebruary	188	August	660
March	102	September	644
April	275	October	402
May	125	November	482
June	233	December	395
First half	1,098	Second half	2,992

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The total cutput for 1949 was 4,090 piculs compared to 11,759 produced in 1941.

Production for January 1950 was 244 piculs. This drop in production was due to a serious shortage of water. The neighboring Tinlay Tin Co. Ltd. is also short of water for its dredge. During the dry season these two companies on the west coast of Fhuket are always short of water.

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